

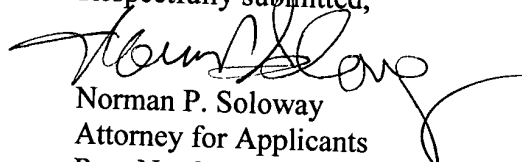
address discharge to be more easily generated (col. 6, lines 28-29). Therefore, Namiki et al. does not anticipate claim 1 or claims 2-4 which depend thereon.

The Examiner's rejection of claims 5-12 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Namiki et al. in view of Torisaki (US Patent No. 6,456,006) is also improper. Claims 5-12 depend directly or indirectly on claim 1. The deficiencies of the primary reference Nakimi et al. vis-à-vis claim 1 are discussed above. Torisaki does not supply the missing teachings since Torisaki does not teach or imply a larger area for the sustaining electrode. Therefore, no combination of Namiki et al. and Torisaki reasonably could be said to achieve or render obvious Applicants' claimed invention.

Having dealt with all the objections raised by the Examiner, the Application is believed to be in order for allowance. Early and favorable action are respectfully requested.

In the event there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge them (or credit any overpayment) to our Deposit Account Number 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 13, 2003, at Tucson, Arizona.

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MARKED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPHS

SERIAL NO. 09/995,383

DOCKET NO. NEC 01FN051



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Serial No. 09/995,383
Docket No. NEC 01FN051
Marked Specification Paragraphs - Amendment A

MARKED SPECIFICATION PARAGRAPH SHOWING CHANGES MADE

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6:

The present invention relates to an AC memory type plasma display panel[, more]. More specifically it relates to a plasma display panel for stably generating a writing discharge.

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 10:

A plasma display panel generally [presents] contains the following characteristics. A plasma display panel has a thin structure. It hardly generates flickers. It provides a high display contrast. It may [be produced as] have a relatively large screen. It provides a high response speed. It is a self-light-emitting type, and may provide multiple color light emission by means of the phosphor. The [application] uses of plasma display [panel has] panels have been increasing in the fields of large public display apparatuses and color television sets and the like recently.

Paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2, beginning at page 1, line 20:

The operation type of plasma display panel is classified into two categories: AC discharge type (AC type), which has electrodes covered by a dielectric material, and operates in an indirect AC discharge state[,]; and DC discharge type (DC type), which has electrodes exposed to a discharge space, and operates in a DC discharge state. The AC discharge type is further classified into memory operation type, which uses a memory of a discharge cell, and refresh operation type, which does not use [it] a discharge cell. The luminance of a plasma display panel is approximately proportional to the number of discharges, namely, the number of repetitions of a pulse, whether it is the memory operation type or the refresh operation type. Because the refresh type presents a decrease in [luminance] luminosity as display capacity increases, it is mainly used for small display capacity applications.

Paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7:

Fig. 1 is an exploded oblique perspective view [showing] of a display cell constitution in a standard AC discharge memory operation type plasma display panel.

Paragraph bridging pages 10 and 11, beginning at page 10, line 25:

The extension of a sustaining discharge follows areas where the sustaining electrode 4 and the scanning electrode 3 are provided, and reaches to mutually further ends of the sustaining electrode 4 and the scanning electrode as shown in Fig. 7A and Fig. 7B. Because ultraviolet ray generated by this discharge is projected isotropically, it stimulates areas of the phosphor that do not oppose to the electrode, and is converted into visible light. Namely, the visible light is observed on the [out side] outside of scanning electrode (further side from the sustaining electrode). The amount of ultraviolet ray reaching to these areas is smaller than that in the area where the scanning electrode exists because the distance between the discharging area and the phosphor is large, thereby decreasing the converted amount to the visible light, resulting in emitting dark light.

Paragraph bridging pages 17 and 18, beginning at page 17, line 26:

These sustaining discharge occurs in an extent from the bus electrode 5 of scanning electrode 3 to the bus electrode 6 of sustaining electrode 4 as indicated in Fig. 10B and Fig. 10C. Because the wall electric charges on the sustaining electrode part and the scanning electrode part are adjusted so as [no] not to start a surface discharge even though the voltage V_s is applied during the writing discharge, the surface discharge triggered by the matrix discharge is relatively

weak. On the other hand, because the sustaining discharge is caused by the voltage V_s superimposed with the wall electric charge, it is stronger than the surface discharge during the writing discharge. Thus, the discharge extends to the bus electrode of scanning electrode, which is at a place distant from the sustaining electrode 4.--



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MARKED AMENDED CLAIMS

SERIAL NO. 09/995,383

DOCKET NO. NEC 01FN051



Serial No. 09/995,383
Docket No. NEC 01FN051
Marked Claims - Amendment A

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MARKED CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES MADE:

2. (Amended) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said scanning electrode [comprising] comprises a ladder-shape electrode extending in the first direction provided in a center part thereof in the second direction.

3. (Amended) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein said scanning electrode [comprising an electrode in a protrusion shape] includes a portion protruding in the first direction in a center part thereof in the second direction.

4. (Amended) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein a dimension of said scanning electrode in the first direction increases as it [gets close to] approaches said sustaining electrode.

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